

ABSTRACT

A process for producing a catalyst for use in producing a lower aliphatic carboxylic acid ester. The catalyst is used in reacting a lower olefin with a lower aliphatic carboxylic acid in a gas phase to produce a lower aliphatic carboxylic acid ester. The process comprises the following first and second steps. The first step is a step of loading one or more heteropolyacid on a support to obtain a heteropolyacid supported catalyst. The second step is a step of contacting the heteropolyacid supported catalyst obtained in the first step with a gas containing at least one member selected from the group consisting of water, a lower aliphatic carboxylic acid and a lower aliphatic alcohol to obtain a catalyst for use in producing a lower aliphatic carboxylic acid ester.